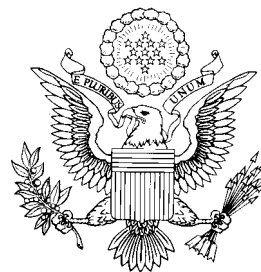


ARTICLE ALERT

June 2008



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民主与全球问题 **Democracy and Global Issues**

1. Playing For Keeps

The American, May/June 2008, vol. 2, no. 3, pp. 80-90

In August, China will host the 29th Summer Olympics, an event that promises to be both political and athletic. Close to 11,000 athletes are expected to flock to China's capital city. At the same time, proponents of human rights, open media, and environmental quality in China, are also competing for the world's attention. With this background, eight China experts were challenged to determine whether the Beijing Olympics will ultimately hurt the cause of freedom in China. If the Games present China as a powerful and capable state, this will increase expectations that the country lives up to international human rights standards. In return, the Olympics will allow the Chinese to take pride in their progress and to show the world that China is a peaceful rising power, not an inevitable enemy of the West. However, it is highly unlikely that the Games will expedite China's social liberalization. In fact, if there are massive protests against the Games, especially over the human rights debate, most Chinese will rally behind their government.

2. China's Netizens Aid Earthquake Relief

Forbes Magazine, June 3, 2008

Thomas, Christopher

In the aftermath of China's catastrophic May 12 earthquake, many lives were saved thanks to the Internet. The author notes that the presence of large numbers of potential news reporters online spurred the Chinese government to act quickly. In fact, the Peoples' Liberation Army first responders were able to locate a landing site near the disaster area, thanks to an instant message posted on popular local messaging services Baidu Post Bar and QQ. The poster, a Wenchuan native, gave the location and topography of the field where the army helicopter was able to land.

3. Rethinking the National Interest: American Realism for a New World

Foreign Affairs , July/August 2008, Vol. 87, Iss. 4; pg. 2,

Condoleezza Rice

After 9/11, the US was called to lead with a new perspective on threats and opportunities - recognizing that it is vital to US national security that states be willing and able to meet the full range of their responsibilities, beyond their borders and within them. This uniquely American realism has guided policy for the past eight years, and it must continue to do so in the years to come.

4. How Big Government Got Its Groove Back

American Prospect, vol. 19, no. 6, June 2008, pp. 23-26

Galston, William

The author, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, notes that the post-World War II social contract in the U.S. is under severe stress. To maintain purchasing power, American

households have resorted to record levels of borrowing, driving the savings rate into negative territory for the first time on record and raising personal consumption to an unsustainable 70 percent of GDP. This situation has been a long time in the making, and has come about through a number of factors, such as the burden of retirement savings, health care, child care and education has been transferred from employers to individuals, and the decline of manufacturing. Galston argues that the public safety net needs to be radically changed, and would entail an expanded role for the federal government. Writes Galston, “the alternative to a new contract is no contract -- a society in which the strong will take what they can and the weak will endure what they must.”

5. Planning for the Future: Long-term Care and the 2008 Election
New England Journal of Medicine, May 8, 2008, pp. 1985-1987
Stevenson, David G.

The author, a professor at Harvard Medical School, argues that the presidential candidates should be better addressing the nation’s growing long-term care needs. About 10 million people in the U.S need constant assistance completing basic daily activities such as eating, bathing and dressing – and that number will only increase as baby boomers age. Currently long-term care, which is not usually covered by Medicare or private insurance, accounts for about 10 percent of U.S. health care costs. Although health care has been mentioned more than 1,000 times in the presidential debates, long-term care has only been mentioned by the candidates 11 times. Stevenson says it is important to address the issue now, because spending on long-term care for the elderly is projected to more than double over the next 30 years, and the longer political leaders decide not to address it, the harder it is to lower these costs. Stevenson argues that the presidential candidates should “exercise leadership in devising a cohesive and sustainable way forward,” for planning and paying for long-term health care needs.

6. Strengthening Global Water Initiatives
Environment, vol.50, no.2, March/April 2008, pp.19-31
Varady, Robert G., et al.

The growing global shortage of clean fresh water is one of the most serious environmental issues facing the world today, say these authors. They analyze the global initiatives that have been at work for decades to resolve water issues, and suggest ways to improve them. “Proficient at their best and weak and corrupt at their worst, the systems that govern the planning and management of water resources need attention,” the authors write. A 2004 survey of water experts found overlap of purpose, proliferation of organizations, and imprecision of goals to be major problems in this network of organizations that operate regionally and globally to attempt to provide some solutions for water problems. They suggest several means by which these organizations might attempt to address these inefficiencies, even while admitting that the initiatives “elude easy evaluation.” Still, the authors credit these global water initiatives with providing important assistance to nation-states contending with local water issues.

7. Global Economic Gloom -- China and India Notable Exceptions

Five years after the start of the war in Iraq, the image of the United States abroad remains far less positive than it was before the war and at the beginning of the century. However, the latest survey by the Pew Global Attitudes Project finds some encouraging signs for America's global image for the first time this decade.

Currently Available online at <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/867/global-economic-gloom>

8. Asia Soft Power Survey 2008

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs in collaboration with the East Asia Institute (South Korea) conducted a six-nation public opinion survey examining the current and potential use of Soft Power in East Asia. The survey was carried out in the United States, Japan, China, South Korea, Indonesia and Vietnam.

9. What Is Driving the High Oil Prices?

A perfect storm of demand and supply factors is driving the high oil prices. Goldman Sachs predicts oil will reach \$200 per barrel by the end of the year... Absent significant changes, high prices are here to stay, and, a correction notwithstanding, may keep increasing in the long term.

经济贸易 Economics and Trade

10. Fourth Cabinet-level Meeting of the U.S.-China Strategic Economic Dialogue: Fact Sheets and Statement

The fourth Cabinet-level meeting of the Strategic Economic Dialogue took place on June 17 – 18, 2008 at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

We have enclosed the closing statement by Secretary Henry M. Paulson, Jr., and fact sheets being released during the press conference:

Closing Statement by Secretary Henry M. Paulson, Jr.

U.S. Fact Sheet: Fourth Cabinet-Level Meeting of the U.S.-China Strategic Economic Dialogue

Joint U.S. – China Fact Sheet: Fourth Cabinet-Level Meeting of the U.S.-China Strategic Economic Dialogue

Joint U.S. – China Fact Sheet: U.S.-China Ten Year Energy and Environment Cooperation Framework

For more on the U.S. - China Strategic Economic Dialogue please visit:

<http://www.treas.gov/initiatives/us-china/>

11. Where will We Find Tomorrow's Leaders? A Conversation with Linda A. Hill
Harvard Business Review, vol. 86, no. 1, January 2008, pp. 123-129
Hemp, Paul

Corporations and other organizations need new leaders to deal with the increasingly global, diverse, interdependent and complex environment, says Linda Hill, a business administration professor at Harvard Business School. Companies need leaders who know and are from the emerging markets, where the fastest economic growth is occurring, but they also need a new type of leader who can adopt a more inclusive, collaborative style. Calling this model "leading from behind", Hill argues that its followers must be able to create a context or culture in which other people are willing and able to lead. This doesn't mean that new leaders abrogate responsibility; they still will need to nudge and prod if the "flock" strays too far off the track or into danger. Such potential leaders already exist in organizations, Hill says. But they often are "invisible", or not considered for leadership roles, because they don't fit the traditional leadership model developed in the U.S. and Western Europe. Instead, they need to be nurtured by today's leaders, who can make space and provide opportunities for them to grow. Many situations, for example crises, will still require traditional, set-the-course, inspire-people type of leaders. But emphasis needs to be shifted toward the leading-from-behind model.

12. The End of the World as You Know It...and the Rise of the New Energy World Order
TomDispatch.com, April 16, 2008
Klare, Michael

Klare, professor of world security studies at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts, writes that soaring oil prices in recent weeks are "just a taste of the latest energy news", which portend a fundamental shift in the modern world, which will only intensify as global energy supplies dwindle. We are witnessing the creation of a new world order, characterized by growing competition for the remaining supplies of fossil fuels and uranium, an unprecedented transfer of power and wealth from energy-deficit states such as the U.S., China, Japan and Europe, to energy-surplus states such as Saudi Arabia, Russia and Venezuela. Sources of renewable energy, while promising, are not being developed and built out fast enough to avoid the multifaceted energy crisis that lies ahead. Klare writes, "in the new, energy-centric world we have all now entered, the price of oil will dominate our lives and power will reside in the hands of those who control its global distribution." He believes that the most urgent decision facing the next U.S. president and Congress is how to speed the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable alternatives.

Available online at <http://www.alternet.org/audits/82476/?page=entire>

13. The Coming Euroinvasion
Foreign Policy, no. 166, May/June 2008, pp.96-95
Naim, Moises

European corporations are likely to follow European shoppers to the U.S. to snap up bargains, says Naim, the editor of Foreign Policy magazine. Those corporations are drawn not only by a cheaper dollar but also by cheaper labor, energy, transportation and land. European businesses can also take advantage of being close to clusters of U.S. high-tech companies and part of the

largest market in the world. Several large investment and take-over deals in the manufacturing sector have already been announced. More are likely to follow, and other sectors such as banking. Midsize European firms will come even in greater numbers. This “Euroinvasion” is likely to produce political backlash on both sides of the Atlantic, Naim says. European politicians will denounce the companies for “exporting jobs” to America, while U.S. politicians will be incensed by “the foreign takeover of America.” But the author believes it will be impossible for politicians on either side to stop a trans-Atlantic shift. Blocking a few large investments by foreign government-owned funds and companies in U.S. ports, defense and other strategic industries is one thing, and preventing investments by thousands of private companies quite another.

14. The Coming of De-industrial Society: a Practical Response

Greer, John Michael

Archdruid Report, posted October 5, 2004

The inhabitants of the industrialized world will have to make a transition to a Third World lifestyle as fossil fuels are depleted, writes the author. Western society demands energy inputs that cannot possibly be sustained much longer, and “everybody will have to get used to living on a small fraction of the energy we've been using as a matter of course.” The federal government is incapable of managing the transition because no politician could advocate the changes required and remain in office. Strengthening local communities, which “can continue to flourish while empires fall around them,” offers the best hope surviving the transition, according to the author. He urges people to learn practical skills of growing and preparing food, making clothing, low-tech medicine and basic handcrafts; “Anything that provides functional alternatives to energy-wasting lifestyles lays foundations for the transitional societies of the late 21st century, and ultimately for the sustainable successor cultures that will begin to emerge in North America.”

15. The Indispensable Industry

The American, May/June Issue

John E. Calfee

New efforts to undermine the country’s drug development system are cause for worry. It is all the odder...to hear serious proposals to cripple or even dismantle one of our most crucial for-profit industries—pharmaceuticals—and replace at least part of it with government and nonprofit enterprise.

国际安全 International Security

16. After Bush

Economist, vol. 386, no. 8573, March 29, 2008, pp. 3-16

In this special report on America and the world, The Economist notes that America's foreign policy may change under the next president, but confusion over Iraq, worries about overstretch and divisions over the country's role in the world will remain. When it comes to

foreign policy, there really are two Americas; the divisions are at their sharpest over Iraq, but they extend much further. Among the contentious issues: whether America should put the war on terrorism at the heart of its foreign policy or treat it as just one concern among many, or whether the U.S. should conduct military action against Iran or allow Iran to obtain nuclear weapons. The authors note that these divisions are the legacy of a president who came into office promising anything but a bold foreign policy. The report includes sections on the status of the Bush doctrine on global involvements, the Democratic surge as they will try to change U.S. foreign policy, the focus on international terrorism, the improvement of its global image, and the future of foreign policy now that the uncertainties of the Cold War have gone.

17. Foreign Aid: Effectively Advancing Security Interests
Harvard International Review, vol. 29, no. 3, Fall 2007, pp. 62-67
Adelman, Carol

Carol Adelman, Director of the Center for Global Prosperity at the Hudson Institute, discusses the use of foreign aid as a tool in American foreign policy. To be successful, aid programs must recognize and adapt to the rapidly changing world and engage with local populations. The three pillars of American foreign aid (arranged in order of success) are: disaster relief and humanitarian assistance, security assistance, and development aid. The author traces the history of U.S. foreign aid, beginning with the Marshall Plan. In contrast to the Marshall Plan, private aid is currently more prevalent in the developing world than government foreign aid. USAID (Agency for International Development) should operate like a private foundation and grant funding only to groups partnering with local populations.

18. America's Liberal Illiberalism: The Ideological Origins of Overreaction in U.S. Foreign Policy
International Security, Vol. 32, No. 3, Winter 2007, pp. 7-43
Desch, Michael C.

The author, director of the Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University, writes that the U.S. has come under fire from critics at home and abroad for its tough tactics in the war against terrorism, and for the invasion of Iraq. Criticism has centered on the doctrine of preventive war, on enhanced surveillance measures to track down terrorists at home, and tough measures used in questioning certain suspects. In this article, the author examines the paradox, pointing out that restraints on domestic liberties have accompanied America's wars against various tyrants in the past. In effect, he argues, the consensus that supports the administration's tough line on terror comes from classic Liberal philosophy itself, stemming from the philosophic doctrine of Immanuel Kant, who believed that only a planet composed of democratic republics would be at peace, and that democracies have the right to force other nations to become democratic. This doctrine, he points out, has repeatedly impelled the American foreign policy establishment to take stern measures against tyranny, even if the measures themselves seemed illiberal. The author points out that the Bush administration is acting in the historic Liberal tradition by demonizing terrorists, and that the war in Iraq has generated little resistance within the establishment, even if many deplore its tactics.

19. No Sign Until the Burst of Fire: Understanding the Pakistan-Afghanistan Frontier
International Security, vol. 32, no. 4, Spring 2008, pp. 41-77
Johnson, Thomas H.; Mason, M. Chris

The authors assert that the Pakistan-Afghanistan border area has become the most dangerous frontier on earth and the most challenging for U.S. national security interests. The portion of the border region that is home to extremist groups such as the Taliban and al-Qaida coincides almost exactly with the area overwhelmingly dominated by the Pashtun tribes. The fact that most of Pakistan's and Afghanistan's violent religious extremism, and with it much of the counterterrorism challenge to the U.S., are contained within a single ethno-linguistic group, has not been fully grasped by U.S. policymakers. The threat to long-term U.S. security interests in this area is a unique cultural problem. In both southern Afghanistan and the tribal areas of Pakistan, the U.S. and the international community should be doing everything in their means to empower the tribal elders and restore balance to a tribal/cultural system that has been disintegrating since the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979.

20. Turkey's Shifting Dynamics: Implications for U.S.-Turkey Relations

This report reviews the major shifts in U.S.-Turkey relations since 1989, with particular focus on events of the past year. It offers an assessment of Turkey's evolving internal dynamics, worldview, and relations with its neighbors. It then advances some preliminary recommendations for managing U.S.-Turkey relations over the coming decade.

21. A Moral Core for U.S. Foreign Policy
Policy Review, no. 146, December 2007 / January 2008, pp. 3-23
Chollet, Derek; Lindberg, Tod

In this essay Chollet, with the Center for a New American Security, and Lindberg, with the Hoover Institution, examine the American values of democracy, liberalism, human rights, and rule of law as they have historically been applied to U.S. foreign policy. The authors also explore what American foreign policy would look like if it were stripped of its "values" component. The article concludes with principles for U.S. foreign policy in the future, such as, promoting and defending democracy; standing against the conquest of territory by force; strengthening alliances and institutions; addressing global hardship; and enforcing the "responsibility to protect".

22. The Volunteer Army: Who Fights and Why?
New York Review of Books, April 3, 2008, pp. 34-36
Massing, Michael

After reviewing survey data and interviewing a number of soldiers at 10th Mountain Division, based at Watertown, New York, the author concludes that most volunteers come from working- and lower-middle-class families, and that they seek but are unable to achieve middle-class status in a "hypercompetitive and expensive market economy" where college, in particular, is increasingly unaffordable. The military, with its housing and employment

guarantees, its health insurance and educational assistance programs, “seems the last outpost of the welfare state in America.”

美国社会及价值观 U.S. Society and Values

23. Bad Rap on the Schools

Wilson Quarterly, vol. 32, no. 2, Spring 2008, pp. 15-20

Mathews, Jay

Mathews, an education reporter and columnist at The Washington Post, disputes a recently aired documentary called Two Million Minutes that suggests American students don't study as long and as hard as their counterparts in India and China, and, as a result, the U.S. may be losing the economic race to these countries. Mathews acknowledges that U.S. businesses are having trouble hiring skilled people and must often go abroad to find more, and that American high schools have not shown much improvement in math and reading in the last 30 years. However, Mathews notes that the U.S. school system is greatly superior to those in China and India -- the real problem is the bottom 30 percent of U.S. schools in urban and rural communities full of low-income children. “Not only are we denying the children who attend them the equal education that is their right, but we are squandering almost a third of our intellectual capital,” he writes.

24. In the Basement of the Ivory Tower

Atlantic Monthly, vol. 301, no. 5, June 2008, pp. 68-73

An English professor, who wishes to remain anonymous, explains the travails he suffers teaching adults at a small private college and at a community college. Most of his students have families, and more than one job. And most of them, this professor says, are utterly unprepared for college-level work. He writes, “Sending everyone under the sun to college is a noble initiative ... America, ever-idealistic, seems wary of the vocational-education track.” He notes that the higher education system has a vested interest in having large attendance -- evening and adult education is a substantial profit center for many colleges. He admits that he, too, “subscribes to the American ideal” of universal higher education — however, “unfortunately, it is with me and my red pen that that ideal crashes and burns.” He questions the morality of admitting so many students to classes they cannot possibly pass.

25. The Last Verse: Is There Any Folk Music Still Out There?

New Yorker, April 28, 2008, pp. 52-63

Bilger, Burkhard

The author joins Art Rosenbaum and Lance Ledbetter, collectors of folk music, on a search for the last few folk musicians and singers. The searchers find octogenarians like Cora Mae Bryant and Mary Lomax who still sing old folk songs. Yet this story is as much about the history of folk music and the searchers themselves. Folk music is an oral tradition as old as America, originating in the Midwest, South and especially Appalachia, with many local styles. In the early 20th century collectors like Cecil Sharp and others began to write down and

record folk songs. The 1920's were a watershed time when folk songs were recorded and achieved commercial popularity. By the 1930's record sales dropped; however in the 1950's and 1960's there was a revival, which Rosenbaum joined by playing, recording and cataloging folk music. Ledbetter represents a newer generation of folk music aficionados, and came to folk music in the 1990's. Ledbetter's major contribution to folk music is *Goodbye Babylon*, an acclaimed collection over four years in the making. Since then he and his wife have produced eight other folk music collections. That Lance Ledbetter and Art Rosenbaum were able to find folk music singers in their search means that folk music as a living genre has not disappeared, yet.

26. Schools Brace for Bhutanese Wave

Education Week, Vol. 27, No. 35, April 30, 2008, pp. 1, 14-15

Zehr, Mary Ann

In the early 1990s, about 100,000 members of a Nepalese-speaking, primarily Hindu minority fled or were expelled by the Buddhist-majority nation of Bhutan. The refugees, known as the Lhotshampas, or "People of the South," have lived ever since in refugee camps in eastern Nepal. The U.S. State Department is now interviewing 60,000 or more of the refugees with the aim of resettling an undetermined number in the U.S. Schools are bracing for the linguistic and cultural challenges of this latest immigrant group. In Syracuse, New York, for example, the first two Bhutanese children have enrolled in a school in which 300 of the 720 students are English-language learners and the principal accepts all the refugees she can because she believes it is good for the American children. A State Department spokesman told the author that 5,000 Bhutanese refugees are expected in the U.S. by the end of September. Although they are trying to learn all they can about Bhutanese culture and language, teachers and principals say they typically don't know what to expect until the children of refugee families arrive at the schoolhouse door.

27. Libraries in the Converging Worlds of Open Data, E-research, and Web 2.0

Online, vol. 32, no. 2, March/April 2008, pp. 36-40

Macdonald, Stuart; Uribe, Luis Martinez

Information and communication technologies (ICT) are transforming the way researchers work. The new forms of research enabled by the latest technologies bring about collaboration among researchers in different locations, institutions, and even disciplines. This new collaboration has two key features -- the prodigious use and production of data. This data-centric research manifests itself in such concepts as e-science, cyber infrastructure, or e-research. Over the last decade there has been much discussion about the merits of open standards, open source software, open access to scholarly publications, and most recently open data. There are a range of authoritative weblogs that address the open movement, some of which include: 1. DCC's Digital Curation Blog, 2. Peter Suber's Open Access News, and 3. Open Knowledge Foundation Weblog. The data used and produced in e-research activities can be extremely complex, taking different forms depending on the discipline. In the hard sciences, such as biochemistry, data can take the form of images and numbers representing the structure of a protein.